

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of transferring data relating to a user from a first data processing device to a second data processing device over a communications network, said method comprising the steps of:
  - a) said user being connected to said network by a third device which is physically remote from said first device;
  - b) said third device accessing a web page hosted by said second device, wherein said web page includes a request for information;
  - c) said ~~first~~ third device directing said second device to forward ~~said a~~ data request to said first device in order for the first device to supply said information requested on said web page to said second device;
  - d) said first device receiving over said network from said second device a said data ~~request for said data~~, said data request including an identification of one or more pre-defined data elements for which the request is made;
  - e) said first device accessing a file containing data relating to the user, said file including data elements identified by data element identifiers and retrieving from said file one or more of said data elements identified in said request; and
  - f) said first device forwarding to said second device said retrieved data elements.
2. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein one or both of said first and second devices are computers.
3. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said file is stored on said first device.
4. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said request is in the form of a web page having one or more fields for receiving data elements, and

wherein said identification of one or more pre-defined data elements is in the form of a machine-readable tag accompanying said one or more fields.

5. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein said first device retrieves from said data file those data elements having identifiers which correspond to the tags in the request.

6. (original) A method according to claim 5, wherein a browser engine operating on said first device adds said retrieved data elements to said web page and presents the web page including the added data elements to a user before forwarding said data elements to said second device.

7. (original) A method according to claim 6, wherein said browser engine provides the user with the option to confirm the submission of said data elements before forwarding said data elements to said second device.

8. (original) A method according to claim 6, wherein said browser engine provides the user with the option to vary said data elements before forwarding said data elements to said second device.

9. (original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of said first device logging the submission of said data elements to said second device.

10. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said first device is a server which stores said data on behalf of said user.

11. (original) A method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of verifying with said user that the data should be forwarded to said second device.

12-14. (cancelled)

15. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said user

provides said second device with the network address of said first device.

16. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said first device generates a verification request to said user in response to the data request being received from said second device.

17. (cancelled)

18. (previously presented) A method according to claim 16, wherein said verification request is passed from said first device to said third device via the second device.

19-29. (cancelled)

30. (currently amended) A computer program product in machine readable form containing instructions which when executed cause a computing device ("the second device") to:

a) receive from a remote computing device ("the third device") an instruction identifying the network address of a further remote computing device ("the first device");

b) issue a request for data to said first device as a consequence of said instruction, wherein said request includes an identification of one or more pre-defined data elements for which the request is made; and

c) receive from said first device one or more of said identified data items.

31. (original) A computer program product according to claim 30, further effective to cause said second device to forward said data items received from said first device to said third device, and await confirmation that said data items are valid.

32. (previously presented) A computer program product in machine readable form containing instructions which when executed cause a computing device

("the second device") to:

- a) receive as an input a network address of a remote computing device ("the first device"), said input being received over a communications network from a third device;
- b) forward to said network address a request for data relating to an identified user;
- c) receive from said remote computing device data relating to the user; and
- d) utilise said data in a transaction with the first device.

33-35. (cancelled)

36. (previously presented) An information transfer system comprising:

- a) a communications network;
- b) first and second data processing devices connected to said network;
- c) a storage unit associated with the first device and containing a plurality of data items relating to a user, in which said data items are organised by data item identifiers;
- d) computer program means associated with the first device which when executed cause the first device to:
  - i) determine from a request received from said second device an identification of one or more data items for which the request has been made;
  - ii) retrieve available data items from said storage unit and
  - iii) transmit said data items to said second unit;
- e) a third data processing device connecting said user to said network; and

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f) computer program means associated with said second device which when executed causes said second device to:

i) receive an instruction from said third device identifying the network address of the first device, and

ii) transmit said request to said first device upon receipt of said instruction.

37. (cancelled)

38. (currently amended) An information transfer system according to claim ~~37~~ 36, wherein said computer program means associated with said second device further causes said second device to forward said data items received from said first device to said third device, whereby said user may issue from said third device to said second device a confirmation signal that the data items are correct.

39. (cancelled)

40. (original) A web site hosted by a web server on a data network, said web site including a web page containing a request for data relating to a user of the web site, wherein said web page includes an option selectable by a user to cause the web server hosting the page to direct a request for data to a remote computer identifiable by said user.